

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



January 14, 1988

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 88-06

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: DISASTER RELIEF PAYMENTS - FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

REFERENCE: M.S. 63-501.3(g) Resource Determinations
M.S. 63-502.2(f) Income, Exclusions and Deductions

This is in regard to the treatment of disaster relief assistance received by Food Stamp recipients. This letter responds to questions raised by County Welfare Departments (CWDs) which were affected by the recent earthquakes in southern California. All County Welfare Directors letter No. 86-126 dated December 9, 1986, addressed treatment of disaster relief assistance received by AFDC recipients.

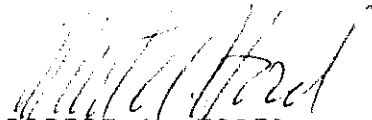
For Food Stamp Program budgeting purposes, these payments are handled according to the source and type of disaster assistance payment received by the household. State regulations specifically address one type of governmental disaster assistance payment which is designated for the restoration of a home damaged in a disaster (M.S. 63-502.2(f) and 63-501.3(g)). Payments of this type are excluded as income and as a resource if the household is subject to a legal sanction should such funds not be used as intended. These payments include monies, earmarked to restore or rebuild the home damaged in a disaster, which are received from the Department of Housing and Urban Development through the Individual and Family Grant Program or from the Small Business Administration.

Regulations do not address treatment of payments received through the Individual and Family Grant Program which are intended to meet disaster-related necessary expenses or serious needs of persons adversely affected by a major disaster. These funds are made available to individuals for specific, identified expenses and the recipient is responsible for returning any amount not spent as specified. While the payments are made for normal living expenses such as clothing, they become extraordinary expenses when replacements are required due to a disaster.

Based on federal regulations, the Food and Nutrition Service, Western Region Office, has directed the State to treat these payments as reimbursements. Therefore, they are excluded as income in the month received (M.S. 63-502.2(f)). However, any amount remaining in the household's possession in a subsequent month must be counted as a resource.

Additional assistance is also available through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to pay for temporary housing after a disaster. Households are obligated to return to FEMA any portion of the housing subsidy which is not used for rent. To the extent that the subsidy is a reimbursement for temporary housing expenses, it is excluded. However, monies that exceed the cost of the housing and are not returned to FEMA would be considered income to the household in the month received.

If you have any further questions, please contact Carole Geller of the AFDC and Food Stamp Policy Implementation Bureau at (916) 322-5330.



ROBERT A. HOREL
Deputy Director

cc: CWDA

State of California
Department of Social Services

Manual Reg. No.: M44-211D
Action : Deny
Reason: Homeless Ineligibility
Title: Temporary Shelter
and/or Permanent Housing
Form No. : NA 290
Effective Date : 02/01/88
Revision Date :

Auto ID No. :
Flow Chart No. :
Source : Homeless Regs
Regulation Cite: MPP 44-211.5

MESSAGE: The county has denied your request for homeless aid for:
☐ Temporary Shelter
☐ Permanent Housing
Dated _____.

Here's why:

- ☐ You are not homeless.
To get homeless aid, you must meet one of these rules:
- You do not have your own place to stay at night,
OR
You are staying at night in a shelter that is temporary,
OR
The place you are living in is a place that people do not usually live.
- ☐ You have more than \$100. To get homeless aid, you can't have more than \$100 in liquid resources.
- ☐ You do not have a permanent place to live.
- ☐ The place you found to live costs too much. It costs _____
_____ To get aid for permanent housing, the place you find to live cannot cost more than 80% of your family's needs. 80% of your family's needs is figured on this notice.
- ☐ You already got homeless aid in this 12 month period. You can get homeless aid only once in any 12 month period. You can't get homeless aid again until _____.

IF ANY OF THESE THINGS CHANGE, YOU MAY BE ABLE TO GET HOMELESS AID FOR TEMPORARY SHELTER AND PERMANENT HOUSING. YOU CAN APPLY AGAIN.

Basic Need for _____ Persons: \$ _____
x .80
Total Amount Your Housing Can
Cost (80% of Needs): = \$ _____

INSTRUCTIONS: Use to deny a request for homeless assistance for temporary shelter and/or permanent housing.

Complete the fill-in items and check the appropriate boxes to inform the applicant.

Use the right hand column to show the computation for the Total Amount Your Housing Can Cost (80% of Needs).